

BATTLE CAMPAIGNS *Excerpts from the 442nd Journals*

Battle of Northeastern France, Part I October 26, 1944 - October 30, 1944

With the success of the O'Conner's Task Force, there was a salient of six miles where the area was vacant of enemies. The nearest enemy forces were northwest of Bruyeres and no enemy troops at Belmont and thence south to Col de Arnelle. It was an experts opinion that it will take two weeks for them to reorganize a replacement troops NW of Bruyeres where the German 16th was located and have them traverse over six miles to the foot hills of Foret Dominale de Champ.

Our division's object was to penetrate the forest to St Die. Our Second Battalion had a one day head start in that direction. A Company leading the 100th Battalion and Third Battalion in the direction of Langefosse.

With the object of St Die almost in sight, the news of the First Battalion of the 141st's trouble, our 2nd Battalion had already passed Grebefosse and Hailey, and could have been the first troops to be in position to occupy the division's object. The Regiment reversed its direction to south, with B Company of 100th Battalion leading, A Co trailing right and echelon C Co to the right rear. With B Co leading both crest of the hill I Co trailed to the left and echelon K Co to the left with a great gap to the 2nd Battalion behind them.

The RCT was again together near the site of the Hill 617.

The 2nd and 3rd Battalion of the 141st was stuck in the valley working its way toward the forested mountain.

Our 2nd Battalion was able to work its way to the North Slope of Hill 617, some of the replacement for the 202 was able to get though but our 2nd Battalion was able to control that. And again the 202 was decimated as scores of its troops were defeated on its slopes.

While I and K Co's were able to maintain it's formation, they were able to cut south at Col de la Croisette and on the way to Col des Huttes, and eventually to the LOST BATTALION site.

October 26 - The 2nd Battalion passed Croix Thomas going northeast toward Grebefosse attempted to go north through Halley and farther north into the 7th Inf sector in search of the limits of left flank.

We did not finish the part of the campaign north of Grebefosse because: Our mission was to clear the forest all the way to St. Die.

The German army at our left flank was in a terrible shape as the German 16th, 201st and the 202nd was cut up to pieces by our 7th Inf. It would have taken at least 2-weeks to get the 202nd back into the Foret de Dominale. The replacement for the 202nd would have to travel from the replacement center at the 16th German Army back into the forest area to attack our left flank. While our 2nd Battalion was in good position to be the first Allied troop to be in St. Die, the change in venue takes place because of the aid necessary to help the 141st Inf.

It became necessary to pull the 2nd Battalion back to the area around Hill 617 to protect the RCT left flank.

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The 100th Battalion and the 3rd Battalion following were deep into the Foret de Dominale.

Here the bulk of the RCT reverse it direction instead of going toward Grebefosse they were in the forest and Co B leading both side of the crest of the hill in the vicinity of Basse de la Chevre. A Company on the right echelon to the right with C Company to the lower part of the hill on the right of A Company.

I Company was echelon to the left rear and K Company was farther to the left down the slope.

2nd Battalion was at the time many miles to the left of the 3rd Battalion.

The 2nd and 3rd Battalion of the 141st was stuck in the valley working its way toward the forested mountain

In the formation that the RCT was in they were able to go to the south end of Hill 617 while the 2nd Battalion was able to get to the northern slope. Some of the replacement got through for the Germans but the 2nd was able to control its activity and managed to occupy the hill. Again the 202nd Inf was decimated as scores of troops were defeated on its slopes.

While I and K Company maintained it's formation they were able cut south at Col de la Croisette and on the way to Col des Huttes. Eventually to the First Battalion of the 141st.

October 27 - The 100th Battalion leading and 3rd Battalion following, crossed Croix Francois going east. B Co leading on both side of the ridge of hill. A Co echelon to the right, C Co echelon to the right rear of A Co; I Co echelon to the left rear or B Co and K Co echelon to the left rear of I Company. There is a great gap to the 2nd Battalion.

Our KIA loss for 27 October, 1944

442 I	Pfc. Amakawa, Nobuo	Honolulu, HI
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October 28 - After the 2nd Battalion checked our left flank, they returned to hill 501 after Maillefaing and to Hill 617 and managed to attack the north slope of Hill. E and F Co's attacked from the north and G Company assisting on the east side and cleared the hill. The 2nd Battalion bivouacked the hill until after the rescue of the LOST BATTALION, protecting our left flank. They were awarded the PUC for keeping the left flank clear of enemy. They helped to decimate the German 202 Inf.

Our KIA loss for 28 October, 1944

100 Hq	1st Lt. Boodry James	Clinton, MA
442 L	S/Sgt Fujinaka, Noboru	Honolulu, HI
100 B	Pfc Fujita, Sadami	Aiea, HI
442 Med	Pvt Hamamoto, Katsuyoshi	Paia, HI
100 B	Pvt Hayashi, Torao	Sacramento, CA
100 B	Pvt Imamura, Larry M	Kekaha, HI
442 L	Cpl Kenmotsu, Yasuo	El Monte, CA
442 K	Sgt Koito, Sadamu	Wailuku, HI
442 Eng	Pfc Kotsubos, Seichi	Kapulena, HI
442 I	Pfc Minatodani, Isamu	Honolulu, HI
442 Hq	T/Sgt Sanmonji, Uetaro	Hollywood, CA

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100 B	Pvt Tabata, Teruo	Oakland, CA
442 K	Pfc Takemoto, Iwao	Kapaa, HI
442 K	Pfc Takubo, Kenji	Honolulu, HI
442 K	Pfc Yamamoto, Fred M	Palo Alto, CA
442 K	S/Sgt Yamashiro, Gordon K	Kapaa, HI
442 K	Pfc Yasuda, Fred S	Los Angeles, CA
442 K	Pfc Yunoki, Shiyoji	Boulder, CO

Our KIA loss for 29 October, 1944

442 L	Pvt. Endo, Masahru	Honolulu, HI
442 I	Sgt. Fukeda, Akira	Puunene, HI
442 I	S/Sgt Harano, John	Berkeley, CA
442 Med	Pfc Hayashida, Henry	Mountain View, CA
442 F	S/Sgt Kokame, Nobuo	Makaweli, HI
442 L	Sgt. Murata, Robert S.	Honolulu, HI
442 E	Cpl Nakamura, George S.	El Compo, CA
100 B	Pvt Nakano, Tsutomu	Makaweli, HI
442 K	Pvt Ninomiya, Ban	Seattle, WA
442 K	Pvt Ogata, Fred S	Paia, HI
442 I	Pfc Onaga, Takeyasu	Spreckelsville, HI
442 I	Pfc Oshiro, Choyei	Ulumalu, HI
442 E	Pvt Seike, Toll	Seattle, WA
442 F	S/Sgt Shimizu, Jimmy	Seattle, WA
442 K	Pfc Tanaka, Ko	Lodi, CA
442 E	Pvt Tanamchi, Saburo	San Benito, TX
442 I	Pfc Tashima, Masaru	Fresno, CA
442 I	Sgt Tokushima, Harry H	Los Angeles, CA
100 D	Cpl Uejo, James K	Kalaheo, HI
442 I	Pfc Yamauchi, Chiyoaki	Wahiawa, HI
442 K	Pfc Yogi, Matsuichi	Waipahu, HI
442 I	Capt Byrne, Joseph L	New York, NY
442 Med	Pvt Isobe, Kosaku	Haleiwa, HI
100 B	Pvt Morikawa, Hiromu	Kihei, HI

October 30 - In the vicinity of north of Les Freys, the RCT passed through Tete la Louviere (315584).

The 2nd and 3rd Battalion of the 141st Battalion was stuck on the right front of our B Co, 100th Battalion. in the vicinity north of Harimé. K Co to the left rear of the leading B Co ran into a series of road blocks. The 100th Battalion turned south at Col do la Croisette 334585), keeping the same formation, B Co leading. At Baignoire des Oiseaux, I and K Co's attacked with a Banzai Charge at Hill 642.

October 30 - Early morning I Co lost their leader Capt Byrne to a bouncing-betty mine. Sgt Akiyama and an engineer from the 232nd Eng went out to locate the K Co forward CP. The K Co CP was not too far from col les Huttes. The CP Sgt Akiyama directed a 300-radio to be on the patrol, but he specified not to use it unless fired upon by the enemy. In 20-minutes Sgt Senzaki's patrol made visual contact with the LOST BATTALION. The location was near Trapin des Saules.

October 31 - The 3rd Battalion received orders to push on toward the end of the long ridge which had been the initial objective of the 1/141st. The 100th meanwhile was to shift south to protect the

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regiment's right flank and supply lines, while the 2nd Battalion remained on Hill 617 to protect the 36th Division's left flank. Soon the patrols from the 3rd battalion encountered a group of Germans constructing a roadblock in their path. Following an artillery barrage, Company I attacked and managed to take 8 prisoners. Because of the threat of tanks and flak wagons on both sides, the roadblock was left intact and occupied by the company from the 100th Battalion. At dusk both battalions reach their objectives – southern tip of the Foret de Champ just above the hamlet of Vanemont. The unit remained in position for three days while conducting patrols south, east and west of the ridge.

Our KIA loss for 31 October, 1944

442 Med Tech/5 Kubo, Tadashi T	Puunene, HI
442 E Pvt Masaoka, Ben F	Millard Co, UT
442 E Pvt Matsumura, Renkichi	Hilo, HI
442 G S/Sgt Nakamura, Ned T	Gardena, CA
100 C Pvt Nishimura Shigeki	Honolulu, HI
100 C Pfc Sunada, Albert M	Kalihikai, HI
100 C Pfc Yoshida, Minoru	Linden, CA

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